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Response to Amendment

- 1. The objection to the abstract is withdrawn.
- 2. The objection to the drawings is withdrawn and the drawings filed 1/12/2001 are approved.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11, 13 and 15-18 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The instant application's disclosed prior art discloses a method for performing a mobile communication signal search using a multipath signal searcher in a CDMA wireless communication system (page 3, lines 5-7). The searcher includes a plurality of paths (page 1, lines 12-25) time offsets are assigned to specific groups across a search window as shown in figures 1 and 2. A search metric is accumulated over these groups (page 3, lines 5-21). Figures 1 and 2 show the searching of these groups over the same time period. The groups contain odd and even time offsets but the groups do not disclose the first group of time offsets comprise only even time offsets and the second group of time offsets comprise only odd time offsets as stated in claims 11, 13 and 15-18. Ziv et al (US 5,710,768) discloses using search offsets in windows as stated in the abstract. Ziv also discloses grouping even and odd offsets in buffers (figure 5) but Ziv does not provide enough detail about how the searching takes place.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin M. Burd whose telephone number is (571) 272-3008. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mohammad Ghayour can be reached on (571) 272-3021. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kevin M. Burd 9/24/2004 KEVIN BUHD